

Serial No. 10/753,000

PATENT
Docket No. 02-0611REMARKS

The advisory office action issued by the Examiner and the citations referred to in the office action have been carefully considered.

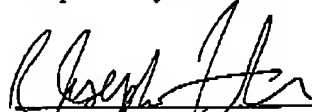
Claims 26, 33, and 40 have been amended to include the limitation "wherein either the first collar or second collar can be attached to the first pin or the second pin." The Examiner has indicated that the claims as written will read over the prior art upon a cursory review.

Dependent Claims 27-32, 34-39, and 41-46

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed and that the application is now in order for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the application and allowance thereof is courteously solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized during the prosecution of this application to charge fees that may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2638. Please ensure that our Attorney Docket No. 02-0611 with any credit or charge to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: February 16, 2006

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